

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 17-840V

Filed: October 18, 2018

UNPUBLISHED

PATRICIA M BROWNE,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Special Processing Unit (SPU);
Damages Decision Based on Proffer;
Influenza (Flu) Vaccine; Shoulder
Injury Related to Vaccine
Administration (SIRVA)

*Elizabeth Martin Muldowney, Sands Anderson, PC, Richmond, VA, for petitioner.
Adriana Ruth Teitel, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.*

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

Dorsey, Chief Special Master:

On June 21, 2017, petitioner filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that she suffered Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (“SIRVA”) as a result of her December 15, 2014 influenza (“flu”) vaccination. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On March 7, 2018, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding petitioner entitled to compensation for SIRVA. On October 17, 2018, respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation (“Proffer”) indicating petitioner should be awarded \$85,151.75, comprised of \$3,801.05 for petitioner’s past out of pocket expenses, \$350.70 for lost

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims’ website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all “§” references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

wages, and \$81,000.00 for her pain and suffering. Proffer at 1-2. In the Proffer, respondent represented that petitioner agrees with the proffered award. Based on the record as a whole, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **the undersigned awards petitioner a lump sum payment of \$85,151.75 (comprised of \$3,801.05 for petitioner's past out of pocket expenses, \$350.70 for lost wages, and \$81,000.00 for her pain and suffering) in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Patricia M. Browne.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 300aa-15(a).

The clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Nora Beth Dorsey
Nora Beth Dorsey
Chief Special Master

³ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

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SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
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No. 17-840V
Chief Special Master Dorsey
ECF

RESPONDENT'S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION

On March 5, 2018, respondent filed a Rule 4(c) Report conceding that petitioner is entitled to vaccine compensation for her Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (“SIRVA”) injury. On March 7, 2018, the Chief Special Master issued a Ruling on Entitlement adopting respondent’s recommendation.

I. Compensation for Vaccine Injury-Related Items

Respondent proffers that based on the evidence of record, petitioner should be awarded \$85,151.75, comprised of \$3,801.05 for petitioner’s past out of pocket expenses, \$350.70 for lost wages, and \$81,000.00 for her pain and suffering. This amount represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner would be entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). Petitioner agrees.

II. Form of the Award

Respondent recommends that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment as described below, and requests that the special master’s decision

and the Court's judgment award the following:¹

A lump sum payment of \$85,151.75 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Patricia M. Browne. This amount accounts for all elements of compensation under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a) to which petitioner would be entitled.

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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/s/ Adriana Teitel
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Dated: October 17, 2018

¹ Should petitioner die prior to entry of judgment, respondent reserves the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future medical expenses, future pain and suffering, and future lost wages.